

MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S/ASSESSORS' MEETING Tuesday, October 15, 2019 William L. Pullen Municipal Building Meeting Room 6:30 p.m.

Selectmen present: John Shepard, Sarah Drickey, Adam Fuller, Josh White

Others present: Jay Feyler, Jim Justice, Catherine Meyer, Erik Amundsen, John Gibbons

1. Call Selectmen's Meeting to order: 6:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Comment:

Eric Amundsen spoke in reference to Browns Lane. He would like to see more green space. He believes recreation facilities help increase the value of a neighborhood.

Jim Justice stated that Lorraine from the Come Spring Food Pantry was present at the last meeting. She was in search of a 14 cubic ft. refrigerator/freezer for an affordable price. Jim found an 18 cubic foot from Lowes.

4. Approve minutes of Tuesday, October 1, 2019:

Motion by: Sarah Drickey

2nd by: Adam Fuller

3-1 abstained

5. Sign Treasurer's Warrant:

Motion by: Sarah Drickey

2nd by: Adam Fuller

4-0

6. Confirmation of Town Manager Ballot Clerks:

Democratic: Dorothy Black, Dianne Groce, Debra Hilt, Pamela Jensen, Nancy Johnson, Carol Watier.

Republican: Tera Corson, Linda Dean, Charlotte Doughty, Barbara Fang, Martha Johnston-Nash, Ruth Leonard.

Motion by: Adam Fuller

2nd by: Josh White

4-0

7. Confirmation of Town Clerk appointment of Richard Niles as Warden and Jay Feyler as Deputy Warden for November 5th Elections:

Motion by: Sarah Drickey

2nd by: Adam Fuller

4-0

8. Final discussion and vote on Browns Lane property, sell or keep?

Jay stated that he will have the deed within a day or two. If the decision is made to sell, the town will need to hire Roger for at least 4 hours to perform deed research to clarify a warranty deed. Both parties have agreed to meet verbally for signing. It would then be considered a deed without covenant.

Discussion: Josh still believes a park would be a good idea. He suggests sending it out for a closed bid with a stipulation that a resident can buy the land but not build on it. Adam has been going back and forth with the idea of the park. His question would be: what would most of the residents want? He would like to see a neighbor buy the lot. He is leaning towards putting it up for sale. Despite Sarah's love for the outdoors, she feels it is not a great location for a park. She feels there is not enough space for parking, as well as added costs for regular maintenance and the initial cleaning cost to implement a recreational area. John loves the idea of a park. He also likes Josh's idea to sell the land with a contingency not to develop the parcel, although he is not sure that can happen. Furthermore, he struggles with the task of keeping it maintained. Responsibly, as an Assessor and Selectmen, he feels it's owed to the residents to recoup the investment made in leveling the property. He is inclined towards selling if a satisfactory deed can be drawn up and feels using a realtor is the way to go. Jay added that if the property was given to Habitat for Humanity, it is guaranteed tax income once a house is constructed.

Motion by: Sarah Drickey to offer the parcel to Habitat for Humanity

2nd by: John Shepard

Discussion: Adam feels that Habitat for Humanity is a great organization. He also knows that Habitat will build a very basic home and thinks that the lot has more potential for a larger house. Josh agrees with Adam, not to mention, it will not be a quick turnaround with Habitat for Humanity and will take a great deal of time to build a home.

0-4

Motion by: Adam Fuller to list the property with a realtor; to list a starting price to cover our expenses and ask the realtor to approach the surrounding neighbors first.

2nd by: John Shepard

Discussion: Josh feels it is more difficult to buy land and put a house on it. Adam feels it may need to be revisited in the future but feels an honest attempt should be put into recouping costs.

3-1

9. Discussion on having a November 5th Selectmen's meeting:

Motion by: Adam Fuller not to hold a November 5th meeting, instead, November 19th, 2019.

2nd by: Sarah Drickey

4-0

10. Town Manager's Report:

Jay stated that Mid-Coast Regional Planning dissolution meeting is November 14th. He recommends joining Mid-Coast Economic Development Corporation.

Jay advises that the Union BOS approves of Knox County joining Mid-Coast Economic Development Corp. on behalf of all Knox County communities.

Motion by: John Shepard

2nd by: Adam Fuller

4-0

A representative from DOT will be in Union on Friday at 10 a.m. There have been complaints about speeding on Depot Street.

Public Works Update: The building will start coming down fast. All the beams should be down in a couple of days. The Aroostook County Snowmobile Club will be picking up the scrap beams to build bridges in their area.

Jay will be in Nashville next week at a conference. He will be presenting on Monday about managing small towns.

11. Other Business:

12. Selectmen's Report:

Josh stated that Matt Speno offered to give the Board a tour of the technical school. If anyone is interested, he can set that up. Sarah stated that the Trail of Terror will open on Friday at 6:30 p.m. It has been two months in the making, and close to being done. She is hoping for a greater turnout this year. They are always looking for volunteers.

The next Tri-county Solid Waste meeting will be Thursday, October 24th at Washington Town Office.

13. Future Agenda Items:

14. Adjourn:

Motion by: Josh White

2nd by: Sarah Drickey

4-0

Meeting adjourned 7:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Sandy Patrick
Secretary